TWS Urban Wildlife Working Group

September 25, 2017

12-2P, ACC 22.

24 people attended (see below)

Introductions

Minutes approved. Nicki F. made a motion, Charlie N. second

Liza announced new board members:

**Pres elect**    Richard Heilbrun      
**Treasurer**    Maureen Murray      
**Board Members**  
 Courtney Aiken      
    Sarah Aucoin    
    Leslie Bliss-Ketchum      
    Jay Boulanger      
    Charlie Nilon      
    Justine Smith

Thanks to all who ran for a position!

Treasurer’s report:

- Moved account from Wells Fargo to Greenbank

- Total as of Sept 6: $62,983.90

- San Diego conference made $27,000 net profit

\* Working group spent 13k

- start thinking about how to use the money

Gizelle H. update from field trip – not here

Chris M. gave summary

13 people

Started at Rio Grande, went to Petroglyphs NM, learned about challenges of NM in urban setting, lunch at ABQ open space center, did a quick service project planning native plants after invasive removal, went to Hyatt Tamaya and learned about a partnership between Hyatt and the Santa Ana Pueblo tribe sustaining natural resources on the adjacent property. Thanks to Gizelle for a great trip!

Seth R. updated on Urban Wildlife Conference:

393 people largest so far – 4 concurrent sessions 10 talks per session, 5 chunks of that

Around 270 presentations

Largest poster session

Did not have a big plenary, group discussed if they liked one plenary and then the panel format.

Folks talking positively about panel session

Did single day registration

Formalize program chair position.

Next TWS conference in Cleveland, OH

Symposia ideas: Social justice and human communities

Charlie N and Travis G will work together to put that together

Field trip: Jon Cepek giving updates

Field trips will look at “river no longer on fire” and “around the emerald necklace” – tour natural areas 15 miles outside the city, talk about partnerships in land management in urban areas, “museum of natural history”

Ideas for UWWG workshop: look at areas where dredge material is dumped and turns into wildlife habitat

Support from Working Group: needs information for submitting the formal proposal – Chris M and David Drake will help Jon with the proposal submission to TWS.

2019 Portland Meeting: Leslie is planning conference – May 2019 Portland. Liza will follow up with her about how things are going and what she needs.

Justine S. working on adding projects to website. Please send her projects if you wanted them listed. Switched from a newsletter to putting news on the webpage. We will solicit news for the website to be added quarterly.

Drew M brought up ways to get younger folks involved. Partner with TWS student working group? Check that TWS quiz bowl has questions related to urban wildlife? Perhaps add a student liason as a board position? Talk to TWS on what is needed to do that. Sponsor a happy hour/networking event at the next TWS conference? Travis will work with Jon C. on that.

New business: how to spend money? Travel grant to TWS? – a discussion about copying ESA model. More scholarships to International, Early Career, Students for IUWC? More support for symposia to get speakers that might not otherwise be able to attend? Would broaden interdisciplinary reach. Offer training opportunities at IUWC? Have never done a workshop.

Travis G pointed out that there are urban focused groups in ESA, SCB, and TWS. May want to consider doing a joint conference at some point.

Contact jsmith5@berkley.edu to add projects to website

Meeting adjourned.

